

Message Text

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12

ACTION ARA-10

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6555

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DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS IBWC FOR COMMISSIONER FRIEDKIN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, MX, US

SUBJ: "POSSIBLE" FORD-ECHEVERRIA MEETING AND BORDER CEREMONY

1. DURING AN INTERVIEW WITH MEXICO CITY PRESS AUGUST
2, SECRETARY OF HYDRAULIC RESOURCES LEANDRO ROVIROSA
WADE ANNOUNCED THAT MEXICO WOULD SOON RECOVER SOME
800 HECTARES OF LANDS LOST TO THE US. DUE TO
CHANGING COURSE OF RIO GRANDE RIVER. FORMAL CEREMONY
TRANSFERRING LANDS TO MEXICO WAS SCHEDULED FOR LATE
NOVEMBER, HE SAID -- AND IT WAS "POSSIBLE" THAT
PRESIDENTS ECHEVERRIA AND FORD MIGHT MEET ON THE BORDER
FOR THAT OCCASION.

2. ROVIROSA WADE ASSURED PRESS THAT US. GOVERNMENT
FULLY RECOGNIZED MEXICAN CLAIMS TO THE TERRITORIES
IN QUESTION, AND THAT WORKS TO CHANGE COURSE OF RIVER
AND THUS REINTEGRATE THEM INTO MEXICO WERE CARRIED OUT
JOINTLY UNDER BILATERAL TREATY BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.
HE ADDED THAT TRANSFER WOULD INCLUDE RICH AGRICULTURAL
LANDS AS WELL AS URBAN AREAS AT OJINAGA.

3. "I DON'T KNOW WHETHER PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA WILL
BE IN A POSITION TO ATTEND. HE WILL BE THE ONE TO
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MAKE THAT DECISION. BUT WHAT IS CERTAIN IS THAT THE

CEREMONY WILL TAKE PLACE IN NOVEMBER AND THAT PRESIDENT
FORD OF THE US. WILL BE PRESENT," ROVIROSA IS
QUOTED AS SAYING.
JOVA

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